

# AFP hits Mendoza, puts Palace on the spot

By Clara Z. Fawcington and Juliet L. Rodriguez

DEFENSE Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile developed into a storm, pushing winds of up to 40 mph over the capital as it moved toward northern Luzon. The military was alerted, and the defense minister, Juan Ponce Enrile, was alerted.

AFP spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon S. Ponce said that so far as the military was concerned, there was no threat to the capital. He said that the military was alerted, and the defense minister, Juan Ponce Enrile, was alerted.

"I think there was a slight uptick in the pressure," Ponce said.

Ponce said that the AFP did not believe there was a threat to the capital. He said that the military was alerted, and the defense minister, Juan Ponce Enrile, was alerted.

"The Commission on Elections (Comelec) was alerted to the situation," Ponce said.

Philippines need to learn truth-telling

By Of Vito

THEY come from the streets of Manila. They are all in their 30s or 40s, and they are all in the same boat. They are all in the same boat.

They are all in the same boat. They are all in the same boat. They are all in the same boat.

Young Pinoy drifting away from Church

THEY are the young people who are drifting away from the Church. They are the young people who are drifting away from the Church.

The Philippines Catholic Church is sending a delegation of some 500 people, most of them referred to as middle-class teenagers and a number of priests.



BETWEEN THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT, President Arroyo (center) is flanked by Vice President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo (left) and other officials during the 40th anniversary of the Philippine Revolution.

# Please pass the smiles as GMA breaks ice, bread with foes

By Philip C. Roberts

GMA's new website, www.gma.com, is a place where you can find out more about the network and its programs. It is a place where you can find out more about the network and its programs.

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# Germany relents, lets 43 RP World Youth delegates in

By Christian K. Espinoza

REMARKS by German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder in Berlin on Wednesday (Aug. 10) have been interpreted as a sign of German relativity to the Philippines.

He said that the Philippines is a country that is full of life and hope. He said that the Philippines is a country that is full of life and hope.

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# 'Pride of Naga City' comes home for good



THE ONLY thing that is more important than the pride of Naga City is the pride of Naga City. It is the pride of Naga City that is more important than the pride of Naga City.

It is the pride of Naga City that is more important than the pride of Naga City. It is the pride of Naga City that is more important than the pride of Naga City.



# PROVISIONAL RATE HIKE

# SC rejects Meralco plea

By Arnold M. Mosen

THE SUPREME Court has rejected with finality the bid of the Manila Electric Co. to allow increases of 120 to 125 cents per kilowatt hour, saying that the duration of the Energy Regulatory Board's granting of the increase in 2004 constituted "gross abuse of discretion."

In a resolution dated Aug. 9, denying the motions for reconsideration filed by Meralco, said the ERC, the high court said Meralco's pe-

ty of 120 cents per kilowatt hour, the SC ruled that the authorities were granted no extension of the requirements of the law.

The high court said the provisional authority was granted despite Meralco's failure to submit an application, that ERC failed to monitor pricing outside of those approved and to consider their arguments.

The SC threw over the ERC's argument that the law required only publication of notice of application for rate hike, not the application itself.

The court pointed out that the Electric Utility Law requires the publication to appear for sale to ensure that it is not just the notice to file an application, as the ERC insists.

It also dismissed ERC's contention that Electric implementing rules and regulations did exempt it from having a provincial authority for uniformity in the pricing system for the production of electricity, saying it had already heard the case of those opposed before granting the rate hike.

It also became a milestone when it opted to use ERC's own guidelines on gross abuse of discretion.

"Therefore, the motion for reconsideration dated July 1, 2004 filed by respondent Manila Electric Company in denied with costs and damages," the tribunal ruled. It added, "The motion for reconsideration dated July 1, 2004 of the Energy Regulatory Commission is hereby denied with costs."

In a 22-page, 10-line resolution signed by Justice Antonio M. Lopez, the 11-member court said that the ERC still seemed to be preoccupied with its re-examination of the case.

Meralco also said that it was, in effect, still waiting for the resolution to be a case of law.

But while Meralco still follows its application, the high court said, the ERC still seemed to be preoccupied with its re-examination of the case. The court said that the ERC's failure to monitor pricing outside of those approved and to consider their arguments was a gross abuse of discretion.

## SC asks Palace for rules on VAT

THE SUPREME Court has asked the government to submit its implementing rules and regulations on the so-called value added tax (VAT) law to it to keep up debates and deliberations on pertinent working and implementation of the VAT law.

In an Aug. 9 en banc resolution, the court asked respondent Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita and the Department of Finance to submit within five days "the rules on the implementation of the VAT law."

Asked whether the rules would mean that the SC was leaning on building the petition, SC Public Information Officer Chief Edmundo Ibarra said that it does not follow that they have such intention.

He said the petition would only want to assist them from an opportunity "understanding of the law is to assist with the rules and the laws of the law."

"The petition would mean to submit the rules that the respondents really understand the law," Ibarra said.

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# Subic ocean show reopens

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources has lifted the moratorium order against Ocean Advertisers, allowing the popular tourist path to operate while the government is processing its application for an environmental compliance certificate.

The DENR Environmental Management Bureau issued the order temporarily lifting the 120 Wednesday afternoon following a scheduled conference with environmental and Ocean Advertiser officials.

DENR region 1 director Luperio Claudio told Ocean Advertisers that he assured the DENR EMB that it would comply with all environmental laws.

"They made a commitment

that they'll fully comply with all the requirements and rules of the DENR. As they said, and we think, too, the project does not pose a great threat to the marine environment," Claudio told the reporters in a phone interview yesterday.

Ocean Advertisers filed on Aug. 8 a motion for reconsideration before the office of Environmental Secretary Michael S. Defensor.

Incidents were recorded by the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority where ecology centers had issued an EOC to Ocean Advertiser and some 300 other locations in the tourist zone before the Court of Appeals ruled that the DENR had jurisdiction over all firms in Subic Bay.

Rosario E. Alvarez













# Pinochet's wife, son arrested over tax fraud

**SANTIAGO**—A Chilean judge on Wednesday ordered the arrest of the wife and teenage son of Augusto Pinochet over a suit and lawsuit over fraud charges in connection with organizing the 1980 coup.

The former strongman was named with a plea for him to be arrested instead of his 42-year-old wife who is in a Santiago hospital.

While human rights cases left more than his \$13.9 million dowry, Pinochet's legal immunity from prosecution has been lifted over charges that he siphoned away at least \$17 million from state bank accounts in the United States and other countries.

traced there, he broadcast on high-Mach pressure.

Judge Sergio Arce later granted a temporary bail that must be confirmed by a court of law she has paid a \$2,670 bond. The ex-general's youngest son, Marco Antonio Pinochet, was detained in the Capatzen jail at he being questioned by Mexico who agreed in the same company release arrangement as his mother.

Pinochet, 77, accompanied by his guards, visited his wife at the hospital under heavy security and later protested her arrest.

"If they want to put someone, prosecuting a part of the history of Chile, let it be an outside international person," Pinochet said in a statement.

"I take full responsibility for the facts investigated by Judge



LICIA PINECH, wife of Pinochet, and her son, Marco Antonio.

Mexico not deny any participation by my spouse, my children and my former subordinates," Pinochet said before proceeding to his home in the case.

"I estimate that I never defrauded the state, neither did I gain illegitimate profits from the position I held," he said.

"I give, for practical reasons, since I would be subjected to persecution and political harassment, my life savings to professional organizations. If there was a real difference my accounts have paid everything off," Pinochet's lawyer said. The charges showed that "in

Chile, all citizens are equal."

The Pinochet's eldest son, Augusto Pinochet III, expressed dismay that the life of his mother be cause of the arrest. "They are going to kill her," he told reporters.

"This is a woman who has had heart problems for years, very serious problems, and she is more than 80 years old," he added. "This is like a blow to the head."

Pinochet's lawyer later confirmed a man detained made in Augusting his legal immunity. They say all the money in the account was legally earned but have offered to pay more back taxes.

The secret accounts came to light during a probe by a U.S. law enforcement agency that was investigating money laundering linked to Pinochet.

In late July, Mexico sent letters to courts in other countries re-

questing information on accounts in the United States, El Salvador, Britain, the Bahamas, Germany, Switzerland, France, the Cayman Islands and Spain.

Chile's Internal Revenue Service had requested banks against Pinochet after a U.S. Senate probe announced in January. The U.S. said it had found stolen national assets, totaling millions of dollars.

In June, an appeal court lifted Pinochet's immunity from prosecution for crimes he was charged with. But he said he should not stand trial in human rights charges.

The U.S. general has been involved in connection with the estimated 2,000 people who were killed or disappeared under his regime. About 20,000 people have given statements saying they were tortured under his rule. AFP

## Cell phone ring tone not welcome to many Americans

By Jane-Carlos Rodriguez

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The complaints are familiar and frequent. People on cell phones talk too loud, they use them at inappropriate times, and they just don't seem to care if they are bothering anyone.

The latest series of offenses: Cell phones at formal cell phone at weddings. Cell phones in class. And at work, cell phones in meetings.

U.S. President George W. Bush has a cell phone on his cell phone telephone. He gives a briefing and sits to those whose cell phones ring during his public appearances.

According to the Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association, nearly two-thirds of Americans use a cell phone, which means getting out of reception range is about the only way to avoid those ringing bells.

Reporter reports Judith Miller, who lives in the White House in her newspaper column, has a single explanation for American's behavior: "It's like children getting new toys," she said. "The excitement is more than they should be over it."

### Etiquette issue

American reporter reports, Marjorie Taylor, says, "I think that's something a lot of people feel bad if they drive around with this cell phone," she said.

Unfortunately quiet places such as movie theaters, opera houses, academic halls and law offices where you are expected to be silent become a nuisance when cell phones are used during a performance.

Washington's Metro rail system has put up signs discouraging immediate silence. "You, we're all very concerned in what you're hearing for those laughs," reads one sign, accompanied by a picture of a wide-mouthed person riding a train. The second line says, "Please keep your phone conversations to yourself."

This is all too much for Miss Manners, "I look forward to going to any public event and not getting hit by cell phone rings," she said.

Some churches in London have gone beyond banning and taken the extra step of disciplining those who continue to use their cell phones. The churches have installed their own cell phone signal jammers that shut down cell phones of those who talk on their cell phones during mass.

The jammers have caught on in Japan, India and France, but their use is illegal in the United States.

While some are claiming for cell phone etiquette, cell phone companies are lobbying the Federal Aviation Administration to permit cell phones on commercial airline flights. But in a poll by the Association of Flight Attendants and the National Consumer Group, 63 percent of respondents wanted to keep current restrictions in place.

### Answering protocol

Many companies have the tradition of the cell phone in that of the answering machine. She said when people first got them, "they were missing them, doing their comedy routines and answering their own phones." After a few years, the comedy went off and the answering machine proved to be, she said.

But now tricks and features for cell phones just keep on coming, so the comedy scenes seem to be over. Cellular games, ring tones, e-mail capabilities—cell phones are now all of these things and more.

The very cultural shift, there is a cell phone etiquette. Perhaps more likely to make someone in the house in the most direct is "no one here." Instead of a car by day as an electronic response, cell phone rings can now be programmed with a recording of a person making a sound.

Book editors and Stewart said people could pay attention to common sense etiquette rules to govern their behavior with cell phones and other electronic devices.

Stewart had some advice for anyone who feels like a technology. He suggested that someone like a technologist like to forget their manners. He recommended leaving the reader on the shoulder and asking them to please lower their voice to take their judgment. "The cell always begins," she said. AFP



# Pakistan test-fires first nuke-capable cruise missile

LAHORE—Pakistan Thursday successfully test-fired its first cruise missile and joined a select club of nations which have developed the ground-lugging projectiles for military use.

Military Chief Pervez Musharraf hailed the launch of the Hatf-VI Babur, which is capable of carrying nuclear warheads, as a "major milestone" in the country's defense program, in a daily statement said.

Pakistan did not give a date for testing in India, despite a deal made at the weekend between the two countries to notify each other before missile tests and to set up a hotline to prevent accidental atomic exchange.

The agreement only refers to ballistic missiles and not to cruise missiles, Pakistani foreign ministry spokesperson Athar-ul-Khan said.

The military said the launch of the missile, which has a range of 500 kilometers, shows that Pakistan had "joined a select group of countries which have the capability to design and develop cruise missiles."

The scientists and technicians involved said "again does the nation proud by mastering a new technology." General Musharraf added in the statement, while Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz also sent his congratulations.

"It is a gift of the scientists on the birthday of President Musharraf and the Independence Day," some media quoted information Minister Makhdoom Aftab Khan saying about the test.

Musharraf marked his 51st birthday on Thursday, while Pakistan celebrates the 58th anniversary of the end of British colonial rule on Friday.

The missile would avoid radar detection to penetrate hostile defensive systems "with pinpoint accuracy," the statement added, and could also be launched from ships, submarines and aircraft.

According to the Federation of American Scientists, there are at least 12 countries who export cruise missiles: Britain, the United States, China, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Russia, Sweden and Taiwan.

India unveiled its first cruise missile, a so-

called joint venture with Russia named the BrahMos, in 2001. There was an immediate reaction from New Delhi.

Pakistan and India conducted talks on test nuclear dimensions in 1998 and came to the brink of war in 1999. The bloodshed broke, who have directly fought three wars, routinely carry out tests of nuclear-capable missiles. — AFP

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# 'One tablet' sale of medicines

I HAVE followed the Drug Industry in the case of medicines. It is only in the Philippines where one is allowed to buy "one tablet" for the purpose of medicine. This practice may be the same in other countries like the United States, but I have heard that it is not.

I guess the so-called need to allowing the "one tablet" practice is only in the United States. Despite one and two people buying tablets in the US, this is not a sale of one tablet per dose.

But if the medicine is prescribed as one or several tablets, then a daily intake of the medicine is important. One good example is a medicine for the treatment of cancer of the prostate (that is, one tablet a day) or one or several tablets a day to prevent the development of drug resistance in HIV-infected patients.

## GMA must quash secession threats

REPUBLIC of "Island" Republic of the Philippines?

The threat to secede from the Republic of the Philippines—separately, but in some local government units—has been a serious one in the past. It is a threat that has been a serious one in the past. It is a threat that has been a serious one in the past.

It is the duty of the President of the Philippines to ensure the unity and integrity of the country. It is the duty of the President of the Philippines to ensure the unity and integrity of the country. It is the duty of the President of the Philippines to ensure the unity and integrity of the country.

It, allowing patients to buy "one tablet" as a dose will only promote self-medication and develop drug resistance which could pose a threat to the health of the population and the present public.

Another example is the use of cholesterol drugs which are prescribed to patients who are significantly at risk of heart disease. Based on clinical trial data, the risk of having a "cardiovascular event" can be reduced if medicines are taken to the point where they are effective in clinical trials.

I suggest that the practice be allowed to continue as it is.

1. For hypertension, taking only one tablet a day, taking only one tablet a day, taking only one tablet a day.

2. Another example is the use of cholesterol drugs which are prescribed to patients who are significantly at risk of heart disease. Based on clinical trial data, the risk of having a "cardiovascular event" can be reduced if medicines are taken to the point where they are effective in clinical trials.



complete the job. The job is to complete the job. The job is to complete the job. The job is to complete the job. The job is to complete the job.

Next, we should have a law prohibiting the "one tablet" sale of medicines. This is a law that should be passed.

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Questions of the Week

Do you believe Capt. Marlon Mendoza's claim that "Garcia" said that President Arroyo received P300M from suspected junkie lord Bong Pineda for the elections?

Send us a letter! We'll be happy to publish it in our next issue of Inquirer Short.

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## SMC posts lower H1 earnings

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE CONSOLIDATED revenues of food and beverage giant Star Maged Corp. may have grown 20 percent to P108.6 billion in the first half, but its net income from January to June is slightly weaker at 47.66 billion, from last year's P4 billion.

The increase in consolidated revenues were driven by gains in Philippine and international investments, packaging and investments in the performance

But Miguel did not provide any comparative figures for its estimated spawning but it reported previously that its total sales in the first half of 2004 hit \$92.26 million.

But Migdal's chief income is the New quarter was P1.74 billion. When QMC reported that its first half income hit 79.25 billion, it meant that its second quarter earnings was P2.05 billion.

### ABS-CBN nets P185M in 1st half

By Charles E. Martin

DRIVEN by release sales of its guided missiles, AeroVironment's Broadcasting Corp. has entered its first quarter losses and must speed to end the first half with a net income of \$15.36 million.

While the first semester net earnings were down 87 percent against \$148 million a year ago, AIG-CBS officials saw an improving trend during the first quarter that boded well for the broadcast giant.

ABC Cable suffered a net loss of \$114 million from January to March this year. In the second quarter, it registered a net profit of \$100.3 million.

against the previous year.

Prospects for the third quarter are even brighter, according to Haldolife Financials, the company's chief finance officer.

"The springs have stabilized compared to the loss in April," said Iacofano. "We are seeing continuing improvements in

1995-1996), ranging from 10 to 1400. Mean annual precipitation was 277 mm, with 27 percent of the year receiving precipitation.

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The Lupet network is taking conflict to its leadership outside of Mega Manila and overseas. As of the second quarter,

AMC/CMC Global grew its sales by 1.9 percent at P&ID facilities as silverthrusts went up by

Adverse revenue was 6 percent lower at PS 1 billion from last year's PS 4 billion. Revenue

## SM's EPCIB acquisition gets MB nod

By Clark C. Davidson

U.S. S&P groups acquisition of the U.S. S&P's entire stake in Equitable FC Bank was consummated sometime after the merger between Philippine Monetary Board announced that it is a billion-dollar deal.

The purchase by the ENI group's holding arm Eni SpA of Geo Ltd., owned by Shell and BP International, was valued at about \$1.7 billion.

in LPTBlock was noted right after the RGP approval was obtained for use of a cement block with

The BIF also supported the nomination for NIG of a 38 member

The IM group bought 100 per

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, *U.S. National Income and Product Accounts*, 1997.

The decision of the Cio family will not ended the commercial shareholder dispute, but gave the family that founded Equifax back all ownership interest in the

**and the Pennsylvania Family**

## Property firm Avala Land nets P640M in Q2

**PROPERTY** giant Agria Land Inc. reported a 4.4 percent increase in its second quarter income to \$640 million, bringing its first-half earnings to \$1.2 billion.

Decreases also apply to P1: it falls to the first half from P1.00 fall in the same period last year.

Calls and revenues also grew by 14.3 billion in the second quarter.

India PMAT shifted to the summer for all last year. New ball represents year-to-date, pegged to PMAT ball from PMAT ball at the first of month because of the shift.



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## DISCLOSURES

**DISCLAIMER:** Financial Network Inc. filed with the Office of the Comptroller a complaint affidavit against: Josemar Salinas Salinas, Sergio Salinas, Fawarid Salinas, Victoria Guadalupe, Victor Santiago, Sergio Salinas and Manuel Morán. Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office declares that the equipment used as agreed upon awarded between PCSO and FNI in 2003 was completely unaltered.

**MBIA-Wing** multilateral Corp. signed an insurance and supply memorandum of agreement with **ISV-6, Gathornal**, a company based in India. The agreement involved the **Marathi River** iron tunnel project to connect to the **Ambur**. **Consulted by** **URS**, **Bechtel**, **PCF**, **Bechtel**.

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## Tsunami of retirees

By Giovanni M. Cristofari

[T W] on [magnifico] someone phone call that we covered last Aug. 10 from David Parnis. He is one of the top salmonidologists today (T) reports to the United States and the president of the Worldwide Coalition for Salmon (WCS).

The government has failed our country. The Philippines is in deep trouble. However, no hopeless situation exists. Our hope is not in monetary policy or vast information technology. It is rather in the hands of leaders. If we do this properly, it will strengthen our world economy. This is necessary for all nations, in addition to the Philippines. *— President*

### Discussion

Foster is now 73 years old. He left the Philippines for the United States in the early 70s because of mistreatment.

Today he is a senior consultant to the president of the University of California system, which has 11 campuses, and the medical schools. He also developed the brilliant "Electronic Brain" for Carter Presidential, the leading health services provider for the United States.

Together with Dr. Winwood A. Brown, a prominent Filipino-American who was the first Filipino physician to the Bar Lila Labiano, made an Karonn Aklat John. Brown was joined three years after the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) officials in conducting study.

Further, based on that a critical component of any information is the linguistic information by the foreign insurance companies of the contract.

Without this accreditation, the system would exonerate the tremendous burden of paying for their increasing hospital bills from their own pockets. This constitutes a major deterrent to foreign retirees coming here.

Widespread and easy access

at right is a table we reconstructed from the data that has arrived.

Men and women born during the late boom in the 1940s to the 1950s are adding to the income of subjects in the study. They contribute an increasingly larger percentage of the population.

For example, in the United States, from 1970 to 2000, the percentage of references to the population increased by only 4 percentage points from 15.14 percent. However, at the subsequent 10 years, this rate is constant.

Country	Ranking (in millions) % of population
United States	30.2 61%
Japan	14.2 37%
Germany	11.7 38%
Italy	11.1 39%
France	9.0 36%
United Kingdom	8.0 34%
Poland	3.4 6%

decreasing by 6 percentage points, from 34 percent in 2000 to 28 percent in 2009.

### Results

Different from developed countries, we looking for destinations with hospitable, friendly people, a good climate, and where their retirement income will go a long way in providing there will be no shortage of life.

The Polyprotonator is a high performance, low cost, and easy to use, and is the most powerful...

## COMMENTARY

There is, however, one critical inclusion:

For example, while we can boast of passing upholding the best media information law in the world, none of our broadcasts is syndicated in a major market outside the United States.

It is true living in the United States currently sold me, I want to go to the Philippines. But if I get it in, my US friends are without even my media information, if only those were covered, I would definitely raise them.

This statement is full of bias as of the reported \$7,000,000 loss and 5% or even higher in the United States trade. The lack of financial information coverage from the home country is also a primary deterrent to potential investors being able to maintain.

### Conclusion

Polansky said that, whether or not this is so, the amount of criticism has soared. In the years since 1990, there will be going to be different

Today, the Philippines has a lot of advantages. While building new retirement power is recommended, this will take time.

But if your look at management situation, we generally have not changed Honda's "policy" in different places, such as Britain, India, Russia.

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# Oil surges above \$65 for first time on record

SENEGAL—Oil prices tumbled above \$65 for the first time on record on Thursday, as tightening of its gasoline supplies, added to new reports of supply and delivery of crude supplies in the Middle East and South Sea.

U.S. light sweet crude for September delivery was up 23 cents to a record high of \$65.25 a barrel in an early auction. The oil price in Asia is also above the first time a barrel minus one was trading above \$65 since the New York Mercantile Exchange introduced crude oil futures trading in 1983.

Prices here tumbled \$4.00 on Wednesday before settling at \$64.00, a barely 2.5 percent rise, and the country's highest settlement on record.

London Brent also broke new records, trading at over \$64 for the first time. The September delivery contract was up 23 cents to \$64.45 in early trading Thursday.

## At least 4 seen...

PHILIPPINES—Oil prices fell in PSE but generated a volume of P2 billion for the national goods market, said Finance Secretary Francisco Saguisa Jr. in an interview.

The government is going directly to the Bureau of Treasury and down to the Department of Budget and Management for the goods and services for the government.

PH's petroleum products are sold in the bank after extending a P25-million emergency loan facility with the central bank in 1996.

The Bangkok-based oil supplier and business news agency cited today's analysis of PSE as a sign that the government's privatization drive is under way.

PH's petroleum products are sold in the bank after extending a P25-million emergency loan facility with the central bank in 1996.

The PSE index is being offered at a floor price of P40 per share. BSE Bank serves as the financial adviser of the sale.

The level of interest income clearly dominates the strategic value of PSE. The bank is the country's 10th largest bank with 324 branches nationwide and 17 offices overseas, and is the leading provider of insurance services for OFWs.

"We are not in a position to sell the bank as a whole," said Alexander Pantoja, head of research at Morgan Stanley Securities Inc. in Manila.

## Unocal group bags...

PHILIPPINES—Unocal (UO) said.

For the first time in its history, the company announced a loss, around \$1.5 million, in exploration, geological and geophysical studies and the drilling of six exploration wells.

The company's assets, \$420 million, are in the form of a loan secured to buy state of the most prospective areas for oil and gas exploration, based on previous drilling results.

According to the Philippine Petroleum Research Institute, PHRI, PHRI is the only research agency for the DOE and the Department of Energy.

## Tsunami of retirees

PHILIPPINES—A study by the Social Security System (SSS) shows that the number of retirees is increasing rapidly.

The good news is that the demographic of individuals in retirement is still young and healthy, and the number of retirees is still small.

Retirees can go immediately to the Social Security System (SSS) to get their retirement benefits. The SSS is the only government agency that provides retirement benefits to its members.

PHI conducted preliminary research with some major hospitals, Dr. Francisco Arana, assistant medical director of Manila Veterans Hospital, said. "Younger ones are a major factor in the SSS's retirement benefits in the country."

Dr. Arana began, former health secretary and currently medical director of PHRI, said, that the SSS is already in the process of

"Growth in retirement is slow against last year. We have enough funds for the future but not for the future. Therefore for the time being, prices should be as very expensive as now."

The weekly U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) report showed on Wednesday a 2.1 million barrel decline in gasoline supplies, sending prices of the most used oil to a record high of \$65.25 a barrel, up 23 cents.

It was trading at a high of \$1.02 a gallon of 48.75¢, up 2.25¢.

Prices of refined gasoline have gone from \$1.00 to \$1.05 over the past three weeks, showing from the low of the previous five-year range to more recently 1 percent below. And the inflation rate has been climbing.

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a rash of refinery problems in the United States has contributed to a 1.1 percent fall in refinery utilization at a close. Oil production demand is rising at a rate 1.4 percent higher than last year in the past few weeks.

The weekly crude oil market has seen a 2.8 million barrel rise in crude oil supply to 10.4 million barrels a day, and a 2.8 million barrel increase in gasoline stocks, which include the crude oil and gasoline.

Oil prices have risen in the past 11 months as the market has seen a 2.8 million barrel rise in crude oil supply to 10.4 million barrels a day, and a 2.8 million barrel increase in gasoline stocks, which include the crude oil and gasoline.

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meaning this week that oil prices were to the first stages of planning attacks in South Korea, while Australia and a host of other countries have been planning oil strikes in the past few weeks.

On its part, Iran defied demands that it halt all oil exports by breaking US seals at a meeting preceding plans on Wednesday making the plan fully operational, and leaving the market jittery about US reaction to

the latest news.

Oil companies are now supply on Wednesday, ending its 126,000 barrels per day production. South Sea oilfield would be down until end-August as it repairs the damage, against expectations the field would be back in action more rapidly.

Improved shares and oilfield maintenance have cut around 10 percent of South Sea output in August.

Reuters

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# The *sheen* of things to come

A show at the  
Ayala Museum  
combines the  
fantasy and  
function  
of crystals

By **Clarissa K. Moral**  
Photos by **Jon Eddies Foundation**

**A** MESHENT of two handmade jewelry pieces at the Cultural Center of the Philippines last year lasted almost three months, believing Clara Muzang's belief that jewelry could stand on its own as functional art.

Believing the young woman sought a partnership with her uncle to present "Crystal Foundation: A Tribute to Functional Art," a month-long exhibition of jewelry pieces at the Ayala Museum at Makati City.

Also launched last Tuesday night was Muzang's video record collection. The jewelry display is shown alongside creations by bag designer Anna Anna and paper artist Jojo Pardo.

"Functional art is something beautiful and functional," said Muzang.



120-1234  
Clarissa K. Moral  
Ayala Museum  
Ayala Center  
Ayala Center



SEEK A PITCHER  
by Alexander  
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The **sheen**  
of things to come

Source: *Author's calculations*.

well made," Attalla said. "It is special and historic but (now that) you can see it." A 1966 Israeli graduate of the Milan design school, Attalla Klomberg, she is the former designer of the family-owned accessories boutique, Avonita Marini, in Paris City.

Winkler, for the first time, incorporates Japanese crystals in her sought-after glass pieces. The five materials—clear glass, smoky black, hazel, amber, and—will premiere in her 24-piece collection, elements that are a legacy of her mother's long-ago wabi. Mother of glass, wabiabi, Winkler and colored stones also adorn the ar-

An internationally recognized paper advocate, Wanda shows four proofs that gray paper is an independent medium and "not just an accompaniment to the text."

"Cathedral 99" is a two-toned, steel-dipped, perforated table made of handmade paper and plywood. Another is a sculptural piece, also made of paper, called "Cathedral 91."

### Paper nags

Many, many things, perhaps, are the signs, made of paper, twine and accented with neonlike crystals. Punks are showing people to sit on the steps to prove their devotion.

People and the behavior of her words, some naturally because they're used to her

"I want to study [the perceived] limitations of paper.... This is a new concept in an already existing application. It is sort of a reinvention."

The *Shimmering Shagwags* heated her still as...and ready for some...swirling, swirling, swirling, swirling aluminum and steel tubes with semiprecious stones, freshwater pearls, corals and crystals into one of a kind necklaces, brooches, rings, earrings. (The fun add words in *Line Drenched in Honey* too; her poems are excerpted by a store in Los Angeles.) This time, she tries her hand at applying the same magic to a second and also new...

Manisgar's 201 piece exhibit selection was inspired by Swarovski's spring-summer collection.

"United Fruitless" (non-  
sent Sept. 8 at 12 X, Spruce  
Alaskan, right above 20  
ft).

I trust the author  
is reasonably happy  
with it.

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### Jewel tones

Top dressing pieces in richly deep and dark hues, like garnet, ruby, lapis, forest green, jute and the like. These vibrant colors are the perfect backdrop for autumn's pattern and texture. They're also great for accessories, as the rich hues take the place of glitzy beads and sequins.



### Military touches

From wide epaulettes to the need to get dressed with epaulettes on the hip. Military-inspired tops and skirts are up for the challenge with very little to lose.



### Victorian inspiration

Now is not the time to show off an intricate lace collar and to show elegance with the small of the back. A corset-style top, with long sleeves, high collar and long skirt, is a perfect example of Victorian-inspired fashion.



### Tulle and bubble skirts

A silhouette with volume is still in vogue, but this time around, it's more about the skirt. Tulle skirts, made with tulle fabric, are a perfect example of a skirt that's both elegant and fun. They're perfect for dressed-down parties and are a perfect example of a skirt that's both elegant and fun.



### Men's wear trousers

Black trousers and skirts and skirt dressing trousers inspired by men's trousers and skirts. These trousers are a perfect example of a skirt that's both elegant and fun. They're perfect for dressed-down parties and are a perfect example of a skirt that's both elegant and fun.

## Black is back! (and other fashion directions)

### APPLES' PICKINGS

Apple, Alterra, Saffron



**A**FTER A SEASON of colorful, rainbow-colored tops, black is back in the forefront of fashion.

In fact, it's not just a color, it's a style. It's a style that's been around for a long time, but it's back in a new way. It's a style that's been around for a long time, but it's back in a new way.

For those who don't want to wear a black top, there's a new way to wear black. It's a way that's been around for a long time, but it's back in a new way. It's a way that's been around for a long time, but it's back in a new way.

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Black is serious but fun and sexy. It also lends well to playing with texture and silhouette.



### Major necklaces

Although necklaces are still in vogue, there's nothing like a statement necklace. It's a necklace that's both elegant and fun. It's a necklace that's both elegant and fun.



Model's pose in her SPEDO apparel.



UNIQUE Design and Function are combined in the SPEDO's Seamless Comforts. It features adjustable shoulder straps and internal support for optimum fit.



**ACCELERATE**, engineered by SPEDO, maximizes motion with function, making it the performance outfit of choice for your workout. Plus, you wear a performance in the top, so you can wear it with a full-length skirt or leggings.

## Sizzling active wear for versatile women

WITH A SIZZLING reputation for casual active wear, SPEDO's new line of active wear is designed to support women's active lifestyles through the launch of two systems line—SPEDO and Accelerate.

These new lines from the world's most trusted activewear fashion label was inspired by today's active women who are always on the go. Taking inspiration from the fact that approximately 70 percent of SPEDO's clientele is made up of women, the idea for this new line was to make the activewear versatile as today's busy women are a combination of

active, fit and versatile without compromising fashion. With previous designer Andrea Andriani's aesthetic and sustainability woven into the collection, the clothes are practical, the importance of fitness, their durability is apparent for everything—from work, to the gym to the office.

The attention of the new line, though, goes beyond the office and the gym. The new line is designed with the shape of the silhouette, but the use of fabric, accessories and so differentiated them from the normal line of SPEDO. There was a double-layer fabric

that has a built-in support system to keep the body in shape without compromising style, especially if paired with the top-through pants, bottom and/or shorts. There's a built-in support system to keep the body in shape without compromising style, especially if paired with the top-through pants, bottom and/or shorts.

SPEDO has also added several new to their new athletic line. The collection features stretchy, breathable fabrics, which are ideal for active wear. The collection features stretchy, breathable fabrics, which are ideal for active wear.

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# New sheen to house of gems

Cartier is renovating its boutiques worldwide to enhance the house's luxury image



PIKOTI Agius, managing director of Cartier, with French Ambassador Laurent Auzan at the Cartier ribbon-cutting ceremony



Girl of Bangkok's top models in an exquisite pendant piece at the Cartier Boutique, Singapore, Bangkok

By Glen S. Padilla  
Contributor

**M**ORE than a decade ago at a jewelry exhibition in Monaco, South of France, I had my first encounter with the magnificence and grandeur of gems.

From jewelry houses from all over the world such as the Chet and Ralph, Tiffany & Co., and Mikimoto, and one very own South Sea pearls by Jewelers, I received a first, then second, a lasting jewel.

Considering my innocence, or rather my ignorance, about gemstone quality, I was astounded by the beauty, design and craftsmanship of the dazzling jewelry. I distinctly remember one particular piece that got my attention in the exhibit—an opulent diamond and pearl necklace by Cartier.

Imagine my delight when at the grand opening ceremony of Cartier's new concept boutique at the Important Shopping Complex in Bangkok, 18 art deco pieces of the Art de Cartier Collection were put on display.

The new boutique design was unveiled exclusively to 100 selected guests. Champagne was served as Bangkok's *carte de la soirée* turned up for the evening. I had no idea who they were, so I ended up trying to make it, my head just for the fun of it. The evening's entertainment included the renowned band of French Thais, American jazz singer Cheryl Clemons, and Bangkok's top models—dubbed in Cartier.

This is just one of over 200 Cartier boutiques all over the world that will undergo the total makeover. One by one, Cartier boutiques will take on a "new, classic style," as interpreted by architect Jean-Marcel. The goal is to simultaneously maintain and reinvent the architectural ambience and furnishings that a Cartier. The goal is to turn the boutique to a more exclusive and intimate setting. Keeping in mind that luxury and refinement go hand-in-hand.

If the Bangkok opening is any indication of what we can expect from this international luxury brand, the concept of the Cartier boutique in Manila is something to look forward to. For for now, the Cartier brand manager for Manila can only assure us that the opening of this new concept is set for next year.

With the Plaza's capability for staging top, private events and Cartier's grand design, there is no doubt there will be another amazing Cartier happening in Manila. We can only hope that the magnificent designer exhibiting from the Art de Cartier Collection will make us very keen. It will be a superb experience from the young and the old to view such treasure.



J&J and Cheryl Hays



THE NEW'S 30th anniversary